

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Tuesday March 21, 2006, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chairman  
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman  
Doug Mood, Commissioner  
Robert H. Raney, Commissioner  
Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Eric Eck  
Utility Division

(90) In the matter of NorthWestern Energy March 10, 2006 filed twelfth semi-annual true-up Advice Letter pursuant to Order No. 6035a- Docket No. D97.11.219:

Commissioner Mood moved to approve the filing in D97.11.219. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(91) In the matter of CenturyTel March 6, 2006 filed transmittal No. 06-01 proposing to offer the following promotion: During the period April 6, 2006 through June 30, 2006, the company will waive all nonrecurring charges for the installation of Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) Primary Rate Interface (PRI), Digital Switched Service (DSS) and DID Service. Customers must commit to a one year contract: if service is cancelled prior to the one year term, the customer will be billed any nonrecurring charges that were waived- Docket No. N2006.3.29:

Commissioner Schneider moved to approve CenturyTel's transmittal No. 06-01 in Docket No. N2006.3.29. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator  
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(92) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes:

Commissioner Raney moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of March 13, 2006. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Legal Division

Mike Lee, Utility Division

(93) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Range Telephone Cooperative, Inc. application for ETC Status in Qwest's Forsyth, Montana, Exchange- Docket No. D2004.3.38:

Commissioner Molnar moved to approve Range Telephone as an ETC in Forsyth and issue a final order with minor edits as necessary. Commissioner Mood seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(94) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NorthWestern Energy consolidated annual qualifying facility avoided cost- Docket No. D2003.7.86, D2004.6.96, and D2005.6.103:

Commissioner Schneider moved to allow surrebuttal discovery, and surrebuttal narrowing progressively to the new issue that has been raised. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Schneider moved for continuance of the hearing at the earliest possible date. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Legal Division

Leroy Beeby, Utility Division

(95) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Cut Bank Gas Interim Rate Request- Docket No. D2006.2.15:

Commissioner Schneider moved to grant half of the request for interim rate relief on a uniform percentage basis effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Schneider moved to amend the motion to an effective date as early as practical. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator Utility Division

Will Rosquist, Utility Division

Al Brogan, Legal Division

(96) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Rulemaking to implement SB 415,

renewable energy standards- Docket No. L-06.2.1-RUL:

Commissioner Mood moved to file the proposed rules with the Secretary of State incorporating alternative A making the change in Rule 1, parin 8. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator  
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(97) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Flathead Area Custom Transportation rate overcharge- Docket No. T-06.8.OTH:

Commissioner Schneider moved to approve the request of Flathead Area Custom Transportation to pay the fine over an eight month period. Commissioner Molnar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(98) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the PSC Case Management System Rewrite:

Commissioner Jergeson moved to commit the remaining allocation from the consultant budget of \$5,250 for testing of the case management system and/or for completing any loose ends on the project. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(99) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Staff travel request for approval of out of state travel:

Commissioner Mood moved to approve the out of state travel for Tim Sweeney to attend the National Conference of Regulatory Attorneys in Scottsdale in June and for Robin McHugh, Connie Jones, and Judy Scheier to NARUC Western Conference in Jackson Hole, also in June. Commissioner Raney seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

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GREG JERGESON, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

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DOUG MOOD, Commissioner

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ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

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THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Wednesday, March 22, 2006, the following members were present:

Greg Jergeson, Chairman  
Brad Molnar, Vice Chairman  
Doug Mood, Commissioner  
Robert H. Raney, Commissioner  
Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Legal Division  
Mike Lee, Utility Division

(100) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of FCC 96-45, et al. - comments to FCC order on 2nd 10th Cir. remand:

Commissioner Raney moved that the Montana Commission decline to participate in initial comments with Vermont and Maine to the FCC but to prepare to participate in reply comments. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

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GREG JERGESON, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice Chairman

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DOUG MOOD, Commissioner

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ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

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THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Judy Scheier  
Assistant Commission Secretary

(SEAL)